

Chapter 6: Compliance, Consultation, and Coordination with Others

6.1 Compliance

In undertaking the Proposed Action, the Service must comply with a number of federal laws, Executive Orders, regulations, or other guidance pertinent to a federal action. These are listed and summarized in Appendix D.

6.2 Consultation and Coordination with Others

This section describes consultation and coordination efforts with the public, interested groups and other agencies.

6.2.1 Public Outreach

The following summarizes public outreach, including public meetings/open houses, workshops, Congressional briefings, Planning Update mailings and Federal Register notices.

6.2.1.1. Public Meetings/Open Houses

Date and Location: September 26, 2002, Scoping Meeting, Centerville, Wisconsin

Purpose: To develop a list of planning issues based on public input and to inform the public on CCP planning process

Number of Non-Service Participants: 22

Audience: Public

Topics Discussed:

- # description of planning process, laws, regulations and policies governing NWRS.



Muskrats. USFWS

- # Refuge history, existing management, problems (exotic plants), etc.
- # issues to be considered in planning process

6.2.1.2. Workshops

Date and Location: March 15, 2003, Manager for a Day Workshop, Trempealeau Middle School, Trempealeau, Wisconsin.

Purpose: To discuss issues developed partly at September 2002 scoping meeting and develop solutions/strategies for implementation.

Number of Non-Service Participants: 26

Audience: Public, representatives of local groups

Topics Discussed: Workshop attendees participated in small, working groups and selected four or five issues to discuss from the following list: (1) Prai-



River Education Days at Trempealeau NWR. USFWS

rie and oak savanna restoration; (2) invasive species; (3) water level management; (4) managing the Refuge deer population; (5) minimizing human impact; (6) off-Refuge impacts of Trempealeau NWR; (7) waterfowl hunting; (8) Refuge access; (9) bike trail; (10) trapping; (11) horseback riding; (12) community involvement; and (13) environmental education.

6.2.1.3. Congressional Outreach

Date and Location: Congressional briefing, LaCrosse District Conference Room, Onalaska, Wisconsin

Purpose: To brief Congressional Offices from Minnesota and Wisconsin on CCP planning process for CCP, Refuge background, major issues, and planning timetable.

Attendees: Kari Jackalen, Aide for Wisconsin Congressman Ron Kind; Robert Kierlin, State Senator from Winona, Minnesota; Richard Larson, Aide for Congressman Gil Gutknecht, Minnesota.

Topics Discussed: Described CCP planning process, Refuge history and background, major issues, controversy expected and planning timetable.

6.2.1.4. Planning Update Mailings

As of May 28, 2004, the Service published three Comprehensive Conservation Plan Updates for the

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge Complex, which included Trempealeau NWR. Updates were mailed to more than 2,600 addresses in August 2002, December 2002 and July 2003.

- # The August 2002 issue included a brief description of Trempealeau NWR and the CCP process and announced Open House/Scoping meetings.
- # The December 2002 issue summarized issues raised by the public at the Scoping meeting and announced dates and times for “Manager for a Day” Workshops.
- # The last issues in July 2003 described results from the series of “Manager for a Day” Workshops.

6.2.1.5. Federal Register Notices

A formal “Notice of Intent to Prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Associated Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Complex” was published in the Federal Register on May 30, 2002. This Notice covered the Upper Mississippi River NW&FR, Trempealeau NWR and Driftless Area NWR (Appendix D).

6.2.2 Interest Groups and Other Agency Consultation/Coordination

Refuge headquarters and Winona District staff gave several CCP updates at Board meetings of the Friends of the Upper Mississippi River Refuges (FUMRR) and at local Bob Pohl Chapter meetings. Refuge Manager Don Hultman gave an update on the CCPs from both Upper Mississippi River NW&FR and Trempealeau NWR at the Mississippi River Commission’s “State of the River” meeting in Winona, Minnesota on March 23, 2004. He also gave a similar presentation at the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee’s Annual Meeting in LaCrosse, Wisconsin in March 2004.

Refuge Manager Robert Drieslein (retired) made two presentations to other agency personnel summarizing and updating the CCP process for Trempealeau NWR and soliciting comments and input. The first meeting was in Dubuque, Iowa, on January 21, 2004 and included staff from the Army Corps of Engineers and the four states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois. The second meeting was at Trempealeau NWR on February 6, 2004 and

included several local Wisconsin DNR employees (conservation officers, wildlife and fish managers, and State Park managers).

6.3 Contacts

Elected Officials

- # U.S. Senator Russ Feingold
- # U.S. Senator Herb Kohl
- # U.S. Representative Ron Kind

Elected State Officials

- # State Senator Ron Brown
- # State Senator Barbara Gronemus

Federal Agencies

- # Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- # U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- # U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service
- # U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- # U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
- # U.S. Department of Interior, Geological Survey
- # U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- # U.S. Department of Transportation

Native American Tribes

- # Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
- # Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin
- # Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- # Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- # Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
- # Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- # Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
- # Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
- # Sac & Fox Nation Oklahoma
- # Sac & Fox Tribe of Mississippi in Iowa
- # Saint Croix Band of Ojibwe
- # Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska
- # Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, South Dakota
- # Spirit Lake Nation Fish and Wildlife

- # Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota
- # Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

State Agencies

- # Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- # Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- # Wisconsin Division of Tourism
- # Wisconsin Department of Agriculture
- # Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Officer
- # Office of the State Archaeologist, Wisconsin

Cities

- # Trempealeau, Wisconsin
- # Fountain City, Wisconsin
- # Galesville, Wisconsin
- # Winona, Minnesota

Organizations

- # National Audubon Society
- # Boy Scouts of America
- # Girl Scouts of America
- # The Nature Conservancy
- # Friends of the Upper Mississippi River Refuges
- # Wisconsin Waterfowl Association
- # Associated Sportsmens Clubs of Trempealeau County
- # Hiawatha Valley Bird Club
- # Ducks Unlimited
- # Buffalo County Historical Society
- # Mississippi River Parkway Commission
- # Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center
- # National Trust for Historic Preservation
- # Trempealeau County Historical Society

Businesses

- # Riverland Energy
- # Xcel Energy
- # Dairyland Power Cooperative
- # Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railroad
- # Canadian National Railroad

Schools/Universities

- # Winona State University
- # St. Marys University
- # Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District

- # Cochrane-Fountain City School District
- # Winona School District

Media

- # Winona Daily News
- # Winona Post
- # Cochrane-Fountain City Recorder
- # Galesville Republican
- # Arcadia News Leader
- # La Crosse Tribune
- # Trempealeau County Cable Television
- # WKBT Television
- # WLAX Television
- # WXOW Television
- # WHLA Television
- # LaCrosse Radio Group
- # WIZM Radio
- # WLSU Radio
- # KHME Radio
- # Winona Radio
- # KQAL Radio
- # Minnesota Public Radio
- # Wisconsin Public Radio

Citizens

- # 123 individuals